

Table 7-9. Trends in the Cash Assistance Caseload: 1961 to 2010

Average Monthly Caseloads, in thousands

Calendar Year	Families	Recipients	Adults	Children	Child Recipients as a Percent of All Children ^a	Child Recipients as a Percent of Poor Children ^b
1961	873	3,363	765	2,598	3.7	14.3
1962	939	3,704	860	2,844	4.0	15.7
1963	963	3,945	988	2,957	4.1	17.4
1964	1,010	4,195	1,050	3,145	4.3	18.6
1965	1,060	4,422	1,101	3,321	4.5	21.5
1966	1,096	4,546	1,112	3,434	4.7	26.5
1967	1,220	5,014	1,243	3,771	5.2	31.2
1968	1,410	5,702	1,429	4,274	5.9	37.8
1969	1,696	6,689	1,716	4,973	6.9	49.7
1970	2,207	8,462	2,250	6,212	8.6	57.7
1971	2,763	10,242	2,808	7,435	10.4	68.5
1972	3,048	10,944	3,039	7,905	11.1	74.9
1973	3,148	10,949	3,046	7,903	11.2	79.9
1974	3,219	10,847	3,041	7,805	11.2	75.0
1975	3,481	11,319	3,248	8,071	11.8	71.2
1976	3,565	11,284	3,302	7,982	11.8	76.2
1977	3,568	11,015	3,273	7,743	11.6	73.9
1978	3,517	10,551	3,188	7,363	11.2	72.8
1979	3,509	10,312	3,130	7,181	11.0	68.0
1980	3,712	10,774	3,355	7,419	11.5	63.2
1981	3,835	11,079	3,552	7,527	11.7	59.2
1982	3,542	10,358	3,455	6,903	10.8	49.6
1983	3,686	10,761	3,663	7,098	11.1	50.1
1984	3,714	10,831	3,687	7,144	11.2	52.3
1985	3,701	10,855	3,658	7,198	11.3	54.4
1986	3,763	11,038	3,704	7,334	11.5	56.0
1987	3,776	11,027	3,661	7,366	11.5	56.4
1988	3,749	10,915	3,586	7,329	11.4	57.8
1989	3,798	10,992	3,573	7,419	11.5	57.9
1990	4,057	11,695	3,784	7,911	12.1	57.9
1991	4,497	12,930	4,216	8,715	13.2	59.8
1992	4,829	13,773	4,470	9,303	13.9	59.9

Calendar Year	Families	Recipients	Adults	Children	Child Recipients as a Percent of All Children ^a	Child Recipients as a Percent of Poor Children ^b
1993	5,012	14,205	4,631	9,574	14.1	60.0
1994	5,033	14,161	4,593	9,568	13.9	61.7
1995	4,791	13,418	4,284	9,135	13.1	61.5
1996	4,434	12,321	3,928	8,600	12.3	58.7
1997	3,740	10,376	2,595	7,781	10.0	50.1
1998	3,050	8,347	2,074	6,273	8.1	42.9
1999	2,578	6,924	1,605	5,319	6.1	39.4
2000	2,303	6,143	1,655	4,479	6.1	38.1
2001	2,192	5,717	1,514	4,195	5.7	35.3
2002	2,187	5,609	1,479	4,119	5.6	33.6
2003	2,180	5,490	1,416	4,063	5.5	31.3
2004	2,153	5,342	1,362	3,969	5.4	30.2
2005	2,061	5,028	1,261	3,756	5.1	28.9
2006	1,909	4,589	1,123	3,458	4.6	26.7
2007	1,737	4,092	962	3,130	4.2	23.3
2008	1,701	4,005	946	3,059	4.1	21.6
2009	1,838	4,368	1,073	3,295	4.4	21.2
2010	1,918	4,954	1,162	3,433	NA	20.8

Source: Congressional Research Service (CRS), based on data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Data on adult and child recipients, as well as data on the percent of the child population and the child poverty population receiving cash assistance for 1997 through 1999 are from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, *Indicators of Welfare Dependence, 2008*, December 2008.

- a. Child recipients in the 50 states and District of Columbia divided by the number of resident children in the 50 states and District of Columbia.
- b. Child recipients in the 50 states and District of Columbia divided by the number of children (persons under the age of 18) in poverty as measured by the U.S. Census Bureau.